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05/15/02 1636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Grooms & Mills

Serial No.: 09/960,256

Filed: 9/20/2001

Title: METHOD OF PREPARING AND
PROCESSING TRANSPLANT
TISSUE

Attorney Docket No.: RTI-128R

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit:
1636

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)

under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
 Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
 a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
 Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
 a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
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Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

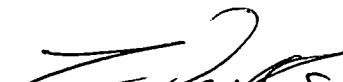
Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: 2-11-2002

Typed Name: Timothy H. Van Dyke

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/960,256
Filing Date	9/20/2001
First Named Inventor	Grooms
Group Art Unit	1636
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	RTI-128R

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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